



KEVIN W THISTLE
PGA of CANADA
HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL
MICKELSON NATIONAL

It is an honour to be considered as a candidate for election to the National Board as the PGA of Alberta representative. I do not take this process lightly as I understand completely the legal and fiduciary responsibilities of being a National Director and the importance of proper Board Governance. I have served on the National Board as the Ontario representative from 2013 through May, 2015. My current and past board and committee experience include; Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada, The Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation Committee's, The Sunnybrook Hospital Foundation's One Night Live, The Toronto Raptors Foundation, the Wayne Gretzky Foundation and The Golf Management Institute of Canada Board, to name a few.

As a young man, I was blessed to be mentored by legends such as Murray Tucker, Wilson Paterson, Bill Walsh, Warren Crosbie, Ron Rayner, Clayton Cary, and John Porter...that distinguished list could go on and on. These professionals

motivated me and inspired me to be the best professional that I could be. I have always remembered their lessons, and throughout my career I have tried to give back in every way possible. My career has spanned 36 golf seasons over five different golf facilities and I have been a proud PGA of Alberta and PGA of Ontario member since 1984. I spent the first 14 seasons of my career at a municipal public course known as Seaton Golf Club. The next 15 seasons were spent at a high end public course called Angus Glen Golf Club. Score Magazine consistently rated Angus Glen #1 in Service in Canada. I was the proud host professional of the 2002 & 2007 RBC Canadian Open, the 2001 CN Canadian Women's Open and the 2001 Telus Skins Game. I also served at Coppinwood Golf Club, a private facility, where I was the Executive Professional and President, The Toronto Hunt, a historic private club where I was the Executive Professional and General Manager. I am currently the Head Professional at Mickelson National Golf Club and VP of Business Development for Windmill Golf.

I have served as Captain, Vice-President and two terms as President of the PGA of Ontario Assistants. After becoming a Head Professional, I served on the PGA of Ontario Board. I held the position of Chairman of the Employment Committee for several years and have served on PGA of Canada committees, in addition to my time on the Board, which include the original PGA of Canada Centennial Committee and the marketing committee with the PGA's Jeff Dykeman.

I am very proud to be a PGA of Alberta Professional. In my opinion, a professional's contributions should include more than just those on the golf course, the lesson tee or in the pro shop. While these are very important aspects and are the core values that attracted me to this great profession, the modern day golf professional should also be a leader. Not only a leader at his club, but also in his local community and the business community at large. I have enjoyed membership in the Young Presidents' Association, The Canadian Society of Club Managers and the NGCOA but I have always presented myself as a PGA of Ontario Golf Professional first.

I try to be a leader in the communities in which I have lived. I have coached baseball and hockey, and was awarded the Anthony Roman Award for Businessman of the Year in 2007 by the Markham Board of Trade. In the fall of that year, the Chief of the Defense Staff General Rick Hillier honoured me with the Canadian Forces Medallion for Distinguished Service for helping to raise funds for the families of military personnel. I was also proud to receive the 2004 Arbor Award for Outstanding Personal Service to the University, from my alma mater, The University of Toronto.

I have been privileged to speak on behalf of the PGA at various venues including the Fall Merchandise show on subjects including customer service and tournament sales. I have also been the Host Professional for many PGA events including the PGA of Ontario Fall Scramble and the Assistant's Team Championships. I have always strived to give back to the association in any way that has been asked of me in the past, and I will continue to do so in the future.

Since the inception of the Humber College Golf Management Program, I have served as a guest speaker and have sat on their Advisory Board in the past. I've received an honorary diploma from Humber College for my ongoing contributions to the program. I have also given presentations to the golf and turf management programs for Olds College, Niagara College, Durham College and Georgian College including serving as a keynote speaker at the 2011 Niagara College Golf Symposium and the PEI Golf Symposium. Being involved in your association is one of the most important things that a professional can do for his fellow professionals and his career. When I speak to the golf management classes at various colleges, this is a point that I stress to all of the young future golf professionals.

Throughout my career, I have also participated in round table discussions with agencies including the Canadian Tourism Commission, Golf Canada, The NGCOA, CSCM, Golf Nova Scotia and Golf P.E.I. I have been a regular guest on TSN's "Off the Record", hosted an instructional show on The Score and was a golf analyst on SportsNet. I have also written many articles for Score Magazine, The Globe and Mail, Report on Business, The Toronto Star, The Toronto Sun, The National Post, Pro Shop Magazine and The Golf Report.

Thank you for taking the time to read my Candidates' Profile and I wish you well in the upcoming 2016 Golf Season.